



## AHCMOM213

### Operate and maintain chainsaws

### Trainer Assessor Guide



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Prepared by:	Jamin Feddersen	Title:	Operate and maintain chainsaws – Trainer Assessor Guide	Issue Date:	April 2022
Reviewed by:		Code:	AHCMOM213	Last Reviewed:	

## Instructions to Trainer Assessor

**Trainer/Assessor Qualifications:** As the **Trainer/Assessor** of this unit of competency: **AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain a chainsaw**, you must, as a minimum, have the following:

- TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (or equivalent), and/or a diploma or higher-level qualification in adult education or equivalent.
- AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain a chainsaw or equivalent.
- Current industry experience and VET knowledge and skills.
- Ongoing professional development in VET.
- TAEASS00001 Assessor Skill Set or equivalent (as a minimum if assessing only).

**Note:** Each assessment will result in evidence being generated by the participant towards the completion of the unit of competency: **AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain a chainsaw**. The assessments may be altered by you in consultation with Progressive Training's compliance team, to cater for participants' personal and/or work environment needs.

**Learner Support:** Support needs of individual participants are to be determined and access to educational support services may be necessary for the participant to meet the requirements of the training package. If support needs are identified prior to course commencement i.e. via the Course Registration process, Progressive staff will advise the Trainer duly. If support needs are identified after course commencement, Trainer's are authorised to make *reasonable adjustment*, however, must ensure all requirements of the Training package are still met.

**Reasonable Adjustment:** A participant's access to the assessment process should not be adversely affected by restrictions placed on the location or context of assessment beyond the requirements specified in the training package. Reasonable adjustments can be made to ensure equity in assessment for people with special needs. Adjustments include any changes to the assessment process or context that meet the individual needs of the participant, but do not change competency outcomes.

**Preparation:** Prior to the participant/s commencing an assessment, you must ensure that the participant/s have seen *Progressive Training (WA) Pty Ltd's* Induction PowerPoint slides and/or the Participant Handbook. You should then explain the requirements for 'Satisfactory' performance and the conditions under which the assessment will take place. Participant/s should be provided with the opportunity to ask questions and/or seek clarification. Both you (the assessor) and the participant must confirm the participant's readiness for an assessment before commencement.

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**Resource Requirements:**

- Training Resource Manual (1 per participant)
- Theory Assessment (1 per participant)
- Practical Assessment (1 per participant)
- Trainer Assessor Guide
- PPT Presentation and equipment (e.g. laptop and projector)
- Material for cutting
- Chainsaw
- PPE

**During:** Questions may be asked of you during the assessment regarding any concerns relating to the assessment process and/or to clarify requirements. You should remain available to support participant/s through the assessment process; however, you are not to provide participant/s with any answers.

**Competency:** To gain overall competency in this unit, participants must 'satisfactorily' complete both theory and practical assessments tools. After each assessment, you should provide the participant with constructive/effective feedback and discuss reassessment opportunities with them if required. This feedback, along with the assessment result, should be recorded on an 'Assessment Summary' attached to the assessment. You must also complete an 'Assessment Outcome Record' (TA 3.22) Form – to be completed once for each part or full qualification.

**UOC Assessment Requirements:**

- Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors; and industry regulations for certification and licensing; and,
- this unit must be assessed in the context of this sector's work environment; and,
- this unit must be assessed in compliance with relevant legislation/regulation and using policies, procedures, processes and operational manuals directly related to the industry sector for which it is being assessed; and,
- assessment may be conducted in conjunction with the assessment of other units of competency; and,
- assessment must confirm consistent performance can be applied in a range of relevant workplace circumstances; and,
- assessors must demonstrate the performance evidence, and knowledge evidence as outlined in this unit of competency, and through the minimum years of current\* work experience specified below in an industry sector relevant to the outcomes of the unit; or,
- where the assessor does not meet experience requirements a co-assessment or partnership arrangement must exist between the qualified assessor and an industry subject matter expert. The industry subject matter expert should hold the unit being assessed (or an equivalent unit) and/or demonstrate equivalence of skills and knowledge at the unit level. An industry technical expert must also demonstrate skills and knowledge from the minimum years of current work experience specified below in the industry sector, including time spent in roles related to the unit being assessed; and,

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- assessor and Industry subject matter expert requirements differ depending on the Australian Qualifications Framework Level (AQF) of the qualification being assessed and/or industry sector as follows:

Industry Sector	AQF** Level	Required assessor or industry subject matter expert experience
Drilling, Metalliferous Mining, Coal Mining, Extractive (Quarrying) and Civil Construction	1	1 Year
	2	2 Years
Drilling, Coal Mining and Extractive (Quarrying)	3-6	3 Years
Metalliferous Mining and Civil Construction	3-6	5 Years
Other sectors	Where this unit is being assessed outside of the Resources and Infrastructure Sectors, assessor and/or industry subject matter expert experience should be in-line with industry standards for the sector in which it is being assessed and, where no industry standard is specified, should comply with any relevant regulation.	

\*Assessors can demonstrate current work experience through employment within industry in a role relevant to the outcomes of the unit; or, for external assessors this can be demonstrated through exposure to industry by conducting frequent site assessments across various locations.

\*\*Where a unit is being delivered outside of a qualification the first numeric character in the unit code should be considered to indicate the AQF level.

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## Delivery of Session

This training should be delivered in two parts.

**1. Theory session.** Covering general familiarisation of the chainsaw.

At this stage the trainer should also introduce any relevant information on the type of chainsaw and material to be cut that the group will be using for the practical component of the course as well as any company/site operating procedures.

At the completion of the theory session, the group will complete the theory assessment.

**2. Practical session.**

Trainer will familiarise the participants with the type of chainsaw that the practical assessment will be conducted in.

Where applicable, site procedures shall be used when operating the chainsaw.

Participants shall be given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the chainsaw.

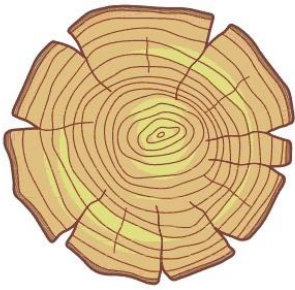
Once participants have had the opportunity of operating the chainsaw and have gained enough confidence, they can then go through the formal practical assessment.

## Answer Guide


The following answers have been developed as a guide only. They provide some of the suggested/common answers that participants may provide. As the Assessor, you should use your discretion and expertise knowledge when assessing participant work and not assess work strictly to this answer guide.

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**Part 1: Assist in preparation of work-site**

Question	Comments
<p>1. What are six (6) actions we can take to safely set up a workspace suitable for using a chainsaw in?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Clear debris and trip hazards</b></li> <li>2. <b>Chock and support timber</b></li> <li>3. <b>Place barricades and put signs out</b></li> <li>4. <b>Have a spotter</b></li> <li>5. <b>Have a first aid kit available</b></li> <li>6. <b>Wear the correct PPE</b></li> </ol>	
<p>2. What are two (2) examples of supports that can be used when chocking timber for cutting?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fallen timber</b></li> <li>• <b>Blocks of wood</b></li> <li>• <b>Saw-horse trestle</b></li> <li>• <b>V-shaped supports</b></li> </ul>	
<p>3. Identify four (4) different types of defects that can be found in timber.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Shakes (Also known as cracks or fissures)</b></li> <li>2. <b>Knots</b></li> <li>3. <b>Termites</b></li> <li>4. <b>Embedded objects</b></li> </ol>	
<p>4. Why is it important to identify timber defects before cutting with a chainsaw?</p> <p><b>Different defects affect the way the chainsaw cuts. The chainsaw can kickback or grab or can be damaged by defects</b></p>	
<p>5. What is the timber defect shown in this image commonly referred as?</p> <p align="center"><b>Shakes (Also known as cracks or fissures)</b></p>	

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<b>6.</b>	<p>What is the timber defect shown in this image commonly referred as?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Knots</b></p>	
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<b>Part 2: Recognise and apply workplace safety procedures</b>		
Question		Comments
<b>7.</b>	<p>Where will you find your workplace safety procedures?</p> <p><b>This can depend on individual workplaces, but you would expect an answer to include one of the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Supervisors office</b></li> <li>• <b>Admin area</b></li> <li>• <b>Managers Office</b></li> <li>• <b>HR</b></li> <li>• <b>Internal Intranet</b></li> </ul>	
<b>8.</b>	<p>What are four (4) workplace safety documents that could utilised before operating and maintaining a chainsaw?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Safe Operating Procedures (SOP's)</b></li> <li><b>2. Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)</b></li> <li><b>3. Job Hazard Analysis (JHA/JSA)</b></li> <li><b>4. Take 5</b></li> </ol>	
<b>9.</b>	<p>What is the purpose of a Safe Operating Procedure?</p> <p><b>A Safe Operating Procedure, or SOP, outlines all high-risk activities that will be carried out within a jobsite, as well as the associated hazards and controls put in place to eliminate or mitigate the risks to as low as possible.</b></p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p>What two (2) documents should be used to identify the hazards and risks of operating and maintaining a chainsaw?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. JHA/JSA</b></li> <li><b>2. Take 5</b></li> </ol>	

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11.	<p>Give three (3) examples of a hazard you could encounter while operating or maintaining a chainsaw.</p> <p><b>Answer should include three of the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Noisy equipment</b></li> <li>• <b>Manual handling</b></li> <li>• <b>Flammable substances</b></li> <li>• <b>Vibration</b></li> <li>• <b>Flying debris</b></li> <li>• <b>Chainsaw kickback</b></li> <li>• <b>Falling limb</b></li> <li>• <b>Splintered wood</b></li> <li>• <b>Slips, trips &amp; falls</b></li> <li>• <b>Water</b></li> <li>• <b>Electrical</b></li> <li>• <b>Terrain</b></li> <li>• <b>Roads</b></li> <li>• <b>Weather</b></li> </ul>	
12.	<p>List one (1) Australian Standard relevant to the operation of a chainsaw.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AS 2727 – 1997</b></li> <li>• <b>AS 2726.2 – 2004</b></li> </ul>	
13.	<p>List one (1) Australian Standard relevant to the PPE required when operating a chainsaw.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AS/NZS 1337:1992</b></li> <li>• <b>AS/NZS 2210. 1:1994</b></li> <li>• <b>AS/NZS 4453.3: 1997</b></li> </ul>	
14.	<p>List two (2) types of signage or symbols that can be utilised when operating a chainsaw.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Traffic cones</b></li> <li>• <b>Caution signs</b></li> <li>• <b>Chainsaw at work sign</b></li> <li>• <b>Hazard tape</b></li> <li>• <b>PPE signs</b></li> </ul>	

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15.	<p>List four (4) items of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that should be used when operating a chainsaw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long sleeve cotton shirt</li> <li>• Trousers</li> <li>• Chainsaw chaps</li> <li>• Steel capped boots</li> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• Helmet with visor</li> <li>• Ear protection</li> <li>• Safety glasses</li> </ul>	
16.	<p>Identify two (2) types of communication methods that can be utilised during the operation of a chainsaw.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal communication</li> <li>• Hand signals</li> <li>• Whistles</li> <li>• Electronic / digital</li> </ul>	
17.	<p>All workplaces should have fully stocked first aid kits. (Circle the correct answer)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE</b>                      <b>FALSE</b></p>	
18.	<p>How many first aiders should there be in a high-risk workplace? (Circle the correct answer)</p> <p>a. One first aider per 50 workers                      b. <b>One first aider for every 25 workers</b></p> <p>c. One first aider per 10 workers                      d. One first aider for every 2 workers</p>	

<b>Part 3: Check and prepare chainsaw for use</b>		
	Question	Comments
19.	<p>Chainsaws should be maintained regularly. (Circle the correct answer)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE</b>                      <b>FALSE</b></p>	
20.	<p>What document would you refer to when performing maintenance on a chainsaw?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• User manual</li> <li>• <b>Workshop / Maintenance manual</b></li> </ul>	

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21.	<p>What are four (4) things we should look for on the bar during an inspection?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Chunks missing</b></li> <li>2. <b>Bends</b></li> <li>3. <b>Burrs</b></li> <li>4. <b>Impact damage</b></li> </ol>	
22.	<p>Explain in your own words how to adjust the bar on a chainsaw.</p> <p><b>Loosen the two bar nuts on the side of the chainsaw's body. Hold the nose of the bar to lift it slightly and use a flat head screwdriver to turn the tensioning screw. The tensioning screw can be found in different places on different chainsaw models, including between the bar nuts, on another section of the clutch cover, or on the powerhead next to the bar</b></p>	
23.	<p>What are the five (5) steps to cleaning the air filter?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Remove the air filter</b></li> <li>2. <b>Wash the filter in a special purpose cleaner or a clean, non-flammable cleaning liquid such as warm soapy water.</b></li> <li>3. <b>Rinse the filter from the inside to out under a water jet but do not use a pressure cleaner</b></li> <li>4. <b>Dry all filter parts but do not expose to extreme heat. (Do not oil the filter)</b></li> <li>5. <b>Reinstall the filter</b></li> </ol>	
24.	<p>You should fit a new sparkplug after <u>100</u> operating hours</p>	
25.	<p>When inspecting a sparkplug, the following steps must be taken. (Number from 1 to 5 to place the instructions in the correct order)</p> <p>___ <b>3</b> ___                      Unscrew spark plug</p> <p>___ <b>4</b> ___                      Clean dirty spark plug</p> <p>___ <b>1</b> ___                      Lift the air baffle up and off</p> <p>___ <b>5</b> ___                      Check electrode gap and adjust if necessary</p> <p>___ <b>2</b> ___                      Unplug spark plug boot</p>	



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26.	<p>What could be two (2) possible causes of the sparkplug fouling?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too much oil in fuel mix</li> <li>• Dirty air filter</li> <li>• Unfavourable running conditions</li> <li>• Screw in the spark plug</li> <li>• Press on the spark plug boot firmly</li> <li>• Insert the air baffle from above</li> <li>• Mount carburettor box cover</li> </ul>	
27.	<p>In your own words describe the chain sharpening process.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Select sharpening tools in accordance with chain pitch.</li> <li>2. Clamp guide bar if necessary.</li> <li>3. Block chain by pushing the hand guard forward.</li> <li>4. To advance the chain, pull the hand guard toward the handlebar so that the chain brake is disengaged.</li> <li>5. Sharpen frequently, removing small amounts of material. Two or three strokes of the file are usually sufficient for simple re-sharpening.</li> <li>6. Guide the file horizontally, at a right angle to the side surface of the guide bar, in accordance with the specified angle according to the markings on the file holder.</li> <li>7. Rest the file holder on the tooth head and the depth gauge.</li> <li>8. File only from the inside outward.</li> <li>9. The file only sharpens on the forward stroke so lift the file on the backstroke.</li> <li>10. Do not file tie straps and drive links.</li> <li>11. Rotate the file a little periodically in order to avoid uneven wear.</li> <li>12. To remove file burr, use a piece of hardwood.</li> <li>13. Check angle with file gauge.</li> <li>14. All cutters must be equally long.</li> <li>15. With varying cutter lengths, the cutter heights also vary and cause rough running of the chainsaw chain and chain breakage.</li> <li>16. All cutters must be filed down equal to the length of the shortest cutter – ideally, one should have this done by a servicing dealer using an electric sharpener.</li> </ol>	
28.	<p>What is the purpose of a chain brake?</p> <p><b>When engaged, the chain brake will immediately stop the rotation of the chain around the bar</b></p>	

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29.	What is the purpose of a chain catcher? <b>The chain catcher is designed to catch and stop a chain that has broken or become disengaged with the guide bar.</b>
30.	The spark arrestor is attached to which part of the chainsaw? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Exhaust</b></li><li>• <b>Muffler</b></li><li>• <b>Carburettor</b></li></ul>
31.	Why are rubber mounts used to mount the engine to the chainsaw? <b>To limit vibration when using the chainsaw</b>
32.	Explain how the trigger and throttle lock operate. <b>The trigger and throttle interlock help prevent the throttle button from being engaged until the interlock is depressed.</b>
33.	Bumper spikes are designed to ring bark trees and rotate the chainsaw. <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE                      FALSE</b></p>
34.	Which of the following are engine components of a chainsaw? (Circle the correct answers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b>Muffler</b></li><li>c. PPE</li><li>e. <b>Centrifugal clutch</b></li><li>b. Chain</li><li>d. <b>Carburetor</b></li><li>f. <b>Air filter</b></li></ul>

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35.	Identify the chainsaw components from the images below.	
	<p><b>Primer Bulb</b></p>  <p><b>Pull cord</b></p> 	

Part 4: Operate chainsaw		
Question		Comments
36.	What is the first step to starting a chainsaw? <b>The chain brake should be activated by pushing it forward</b>	
37.	Once started, what should be checked on the chainsaw before any cutting activities? <b>Check the chain lubrication</b>	
38.	List four (4) cutting methods / techniques that can be utilised when operating a chainsaw. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pushing chainsaw cuts (Overbucking)</b></li> <li>• <b>Pulling chainsaw cuts (Underbucking)</b></li> <li>• <b>Plunge cuts</b></li> <li>• <b>Limbing</b></li> <li>• <b>Pruning</b></li> </ul>	

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39.	<p>The trickiest part of a plunge cut is removing the saw after it has been completed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE</b>                      <b>FALSE</b></p>	
40.	<p>What are the four (4) steps you should follow when Limbing a tree?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cut the limbs and branches on the top side of the tree that are not bearing any weight.</b></li> <li>• <b>Cut the smaller limbs on the underside of the tree that aren't supporting the log's weight.</b></li> <li>• <b>Inspect the other limbs and determine which way the log will roll or collapse when these are removed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Once you have determined which way the tree might roll, you can then start cutting the limbs that are supporting the tree.</b></li> </ul>	
41.	<p>What should you do if your guide bar gets stuck in a log?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First, turn off the chainsaw.</b></li> <li>• <b>Next, drive a wedge (plastic or wooden) into the cut with a hammer.</b></li> <li>• <b>Finally, as the wood releases the chainsaw, pull it out of the log.</b></li> </ul>	
42.	<p>When cutting on an incline, you should always stand uphill to the log you are cutting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE</b>                      <b>FALSE</b></p>	

**Part 5: Complete and check chainsaw operation**

Question	Comments
<p>43. What is the shutdown process for a chainsaw?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Remove the chainsaw from any material that has been cut</b></li> <li>2. <b>Reduce engine revs down to idle</b></li> <li>3. <b>Face the chainsaw away from yourself</b></li> <li>4. <b>Flick the electrical control switch to the "OFF" position</b></li> </ol>	
<p>44. After the chainsaw has shut-down and has cooled, the chainsaw scabbard can be placed on the bar and the chainsaw stored.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRUE</b>                      <b>FALSE</b></p>	

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45.	What process can we utilise to help us identify any environmental issues? <b>Environmental Audit</b>	
46.	What are five (5) common environmental impacts caused by the operation of a chainsaw?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Noise pollution</b></li> <li>• <b>Airborne particles</b></li> <li>• <b>Engine emissions</b></li> <li>• <b>Waterway contaminants</b></li> <li>• <b>Fauna / Flora damage</b></li> </ul>	
47.	Chainsaws are fine to be used around bees.  <b>TRUE</b> <b>FALSE</b>	
48.	What is one (1) thing that might agitate bees while using a chainsaw?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>exhaust fumes blowing towards the hive</b></li> <li>• <b>using the chainsaw nearby for an extended period</b></li> <li>• <b>certain types of engine pitch</b></li> <li>• <b>branches or other debris falling onto or near the hive</b></li> <li>• <b>working during the time of most activity in and out of the hive</b></li> </ul>	
49.	When cutting submerged timber, what should we make sure we avoid?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Getting the chainsaw engine wet</b></li> <li>• <b>Introduce contaminants into the waterway</b></li> </ul>	
50.	After completing a chainsaw activity, the green waste and garden debris should be disposed of into the local national park. (Circle the correct answer)  <b>TRUE</b> <b>FALSE</b>	

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